



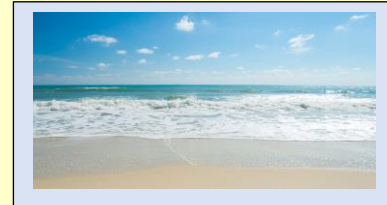
GFWC ROTONDA WEST WOMAN'S CLUB

GFWC-FL DISTRICT 12

A Proud Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

CHATTER

Special Summer Edition #2, 2023



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Gwen Grace, 201-317-2317

Gweng1999@yahoo.com

I hope you all have been having a wonderful summer although I really wish the weather here would just cool down a bit. Muggy is not my favorite although I will take it any day over sleet and icy.

Although our general meetings will not begin until September, our members have been keeping busy with book clubs, crafting, singing, sewing, etc. including the wonderful volunteering that is done in the community. They have also spent time traveling and heading to their "summer" homes. I enjoy hearing about the travels of our members.

We will be gearing up for September, which will have two main events! The GFWC Florida Fall Board of Directors Meeting and workshops are scheduled in Orlando September 22 – 24. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend. The theme is "Going Above and Beyond." More information will follow shortly.

And on September 30th we will be participating in the General Federation of Women's Clubs "National Day of Service". Our club is registered and ready to take action.

**Save the date:
Wednesday, August 9th
from 4 pm to 6 pm.
Bring your friends,
your spouse,
and your neighbors.
The more the merrier.**



Please Join Us For
**GFWC Rotonda West
Woman's Club
Happy Hour Social**

Wednesday, August 9th
4 pm to 6 pm
South Gulf Cove HOA Clubhouse
14859 Ingraham Blvd
Port Charlotte

Bring Your Own Beverage
Everyone is welcome to attend!

Rita Lopienski organized a summer luncheon at the Twisted Fork which was enjoyed by twenty members and guests. Thank you, Rita, for putting it together and to Kara Kelly for the adorable goody bags with the bumble bee key ring. It was a fun afternoon.



Meanwhile, enjoy the summer and I hope you can attend the Happy Hour Social on August 9th.



FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Gloria Rogoski, 440 487 5586
rogoskigi@gmail.com

Happy Summer Everyone. I hope you are all enjoying your travels, parties, and quiet times to relax and recharge. My husband Rick and I made a short trip to Deerfield Beach to celebrate our end of June anniversary. We found a great arboretum of mature, native trees with things like jackfruit, macadamia nuts, lychee nuts, pomegranates, and on and on. It was quite a treat since most of the trees in our area are much younger and less productive.

We wandered around for quite a while in this unexpected garden, which brings me to the focus of my summer – my knees. I cannot walk much with severely arthritic knees, and it was time to fix that. So, the “highlight” of my summer was preparing for and having a knee replacement. I am writing this article four days in advance of the surgery so I cannot tell you here how it went, but I am sure it will make an improvement in my life.

I am looking forward to reading about all your adventures and seeing you all in September.





SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Jennifer Cope, 816 678 4045

jennyllyncope@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

rwwcmembership@gmail.com

Happy Hot Summer!

I had several ladies eager to get started with our club, so I held an orientation in July. Please welcome our five newest members to GFWC RWWC. Please welcome Maureen Laderer, Barbara Mills, Donna Flynn, Diana Dinicola, Kristen Sponring. Don't forget to invite interested ladies to our next social event or to any other activity during the summer. It's nice for them to really see our organization at work.

Thank you all for your support of the Kicks for Kids Program again this year. Details of the final count to come.

Hope you like my summer float photo taken during our Ginni Springs Float Trip! It was very refreshing and a little humbling when I tried to get off!!!



Jennifer Cope
2nd VP Membership
816-678-4045



Maureen Laderer



Barbara Mills



Donna Flynn



Diana Dinicola



Kristen Sponring

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & OUTREACH

Michele Scott, Co-Chairman 941-662-7554 annamichelea@yahoo.com

Bev Dobbins, Co-Chairman 317 373 4503 bosartbev@sbcglobal.net



Much thanks goes out to the ladies that have agreed to volunteer at Helping Hand August 2nd and 3rd. Our next commitment is for October 4th and 5th. I will have a sign up sheet available at the September meeting. Thanks again to those who responded.

Eileen McVeigh has a request for some plarn mats, and we are in need of more plarn. So, if anyone has made plarn, please let me know and I will collect it.

Bev Dobbins
Co chair Civic Engagement and Outreach

MEMORIAL DAY – PLACING FLAGS IN REMBERANCE OF OUR FALLEN HEROS





ARTS & CULTURE

Kathy Altenburg, Chairman
Co-Chairman, GFWC FL District 12
941-698-9130 kathy6150@aol.com



In June, ten ladies made a trip to the Englewood Art Center for new Gallery presentations. The Warren Loranger Gallery had “Feathers, Fur, and Fins.” The Ken Mitchell Gallery had Pastels. The Mangrove Gallery had Mixed Media, and the members’ Gallery had scratchboard and Colored Pencil exhibits.

Every few weeks the Art Center has new artwork to showcase. The Gallery is free for all, and offers different art classes year-round. The Gallery is on Old Englewood Road in Englewood, and is open from 9 till 4 all week long.

Recently one of our Crafters, Rosemary Collins, made a generous donation of dog stuffed toys to EARS. She has previously given donations of dog food and other needed items. She is definitely a dedicated supporter of our canine companions!

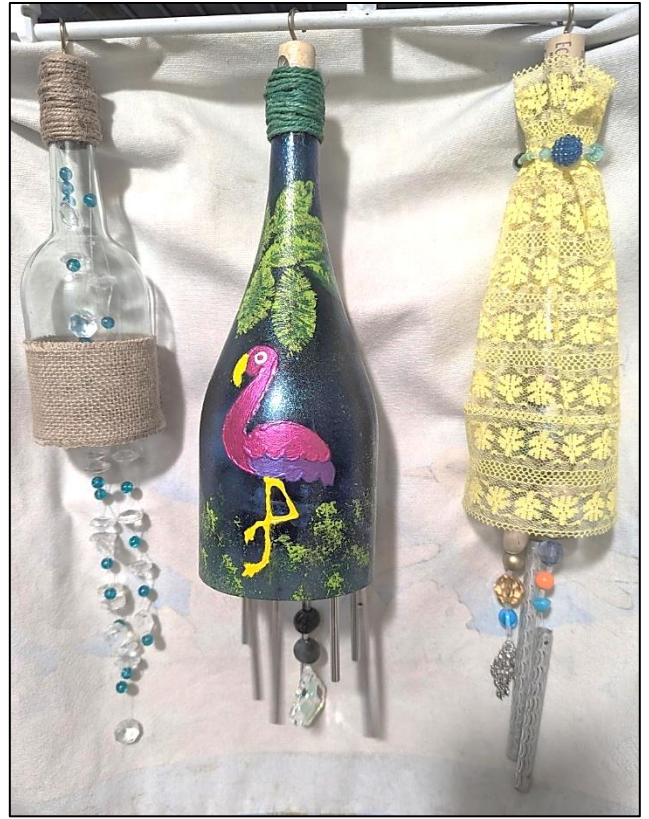
The crafters have been working very hard getting some projects ready for the October 21st craft bazaar. We have been making faux stained-glass pictures, wine bottle chimes, and some sheet music wreaths. In the coming weeks, we will be working on some fall and Thanksgiving items, and then to our Christmas projects! By the time this goes to print, we will also have had an “Alcohol Oil Paint” class given by our own member, Rosanna Halprine. We are open to learning new crafts and art techniques whenever possible.



ENGLEWOOD ART CENTER



FAUX STAINED-GLASS



WINE CHIMES

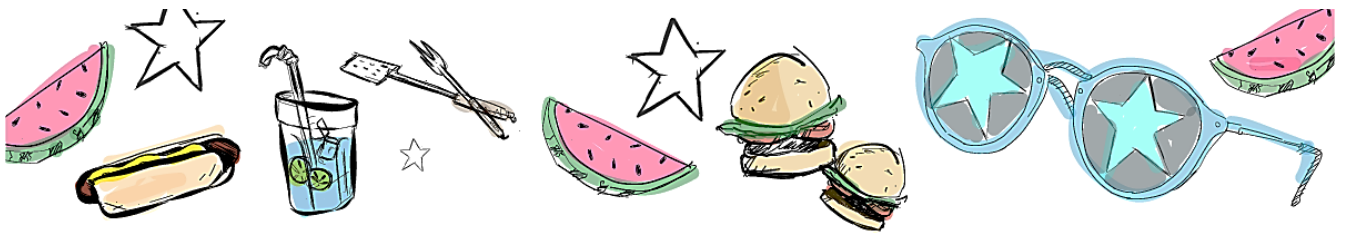


**DONATIONS
TO EARS**

ROSEMARY COLLINS

JEWELRY CLASS LED BY RESIDENT ARTIST NANCY VAN TASSEL







HEALTH & WELLNESS

Clare Imrie, Co-chairman, 713 825 2154

clareimrie@hotmail.com



This photo was taken when I was enjoying my birthday present in June, a lovely week in an all-inclusive resort in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic!



Hope everybody is having a good summer. Please help Kids' Needs of Englewood provide new sneakers for school children by participating in the Kicks for Kids shoe donation drive-thru on Friday August 4th at RWA Community Center, 646 Rotonda Circle, 8am - 11am, or drop them off at the Blood Drive on Saturday, August 5th opposite The Hills Golf Course, 100 Rotonda Circle, Saturday, Aug 5th 9am - noon, thank you for your support!



Kicks for Kids

Please help GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club & Rotary Club of Rotonda provide new sneakers for Kids' Needs of Englewood.

HOW? Drop off pairs of new sneakers
Junior sizes 10, 11, 12, 13, 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 or
Men / Women sizes 6 - 13

July 24 - August 4 is a tax-free holiday for back-to-school items

When, Where, What Time?

1) Friday August 4th

- Rotonda West Association (RWA) Community Center
- 646 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947
- 8am – 11am

2) Saturday August 5th

- At the Big Red Bus by The Hills Golf Club / Marina
- 100 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947
- 9am - noon (donate blood at the same time!)

Contact for further info:

Jennifer Cope wwwmembership@gmail.com 816-678-4045

Clare Imrie clareimrieuk@hotmail.com

Thanks for your support!

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Kara Kelly, Chairman, 410 652 6830 babs013@comcast.net

Debra A Sigismondo, Chairman Scholarship, 941 697 7519 sgad7@aol.com

Betsy Bouchard, ESO Chairman, 757 952 9890 betsybou@yahoo.com



Kara Kelly and Debra Sigismondo cordially invite you to join our team. Many hands make light the work. Are you interested in reading to children, selecting scholars for financial Aid, collecting books and school supplies? And working alongside friends and neighbors?

We are holding a “new beginnings” meeting on Thursday, September 7TH at 10 am in the West Card Room in the Rotonda Community Building. Please come and bring new ideas to energize our program!



We're Giving Children Bright Futures

We envision a thriving community where all children have an opportunity to fulfill their true potential through highly developed skills and talent.

**Our GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club is invited to donate to
The Literacy Center of Englewood**

Items Needed:

- bulk packages of toilet paper (Scott...or anything less than 3 ply because we need thin paper as some of the little kiddos like to stuff and clog the toilets!☺)
- bulk packages of paper towels
- copy paper
- EPSON Ink cartridges (#222)
- Scotch thermal Laminating sheets (3 MIL letter size)
- manila and colored file folders
- pocket folders
- Lysol wipes
- toilet bowl cleaner
- Individual Snacks: goldfish, cookies, cheeze-its, chips, granola bars
- packages of the mini 10 oz waters

Thank you!!!!

Sincerely,

Tammy Tieu

Director (M.Ed, Certified Dyslexia Practitioner)

Bring donations to our September General Meeting

Education & Libraries, CSP

Kara Kelly, Debra Sigismondo



ESO Betsy Bouchard, Chair

The Brunch Buddies enjoyed a delicious lunch at Cheddar's in Port Charlotte. We had a real gab fest, especially happy to spend time with Norma Wood and Merrilee Warner.



GFWC FL DISTRICT 12 DIRECTOR
GFWC RWWC BOGGY CREEK PRESIDENT'S PROJECT CHAIRMAN



Kathryn Gallagher, 610 952 1333
kathryngal@yahoo.com

The Beauty of the Adirondacks – Kathryn and Joe Gallagher, July 2023

Florida is Flat. The Adirondacks are not...it's quite a shock to return to our beloved mountains after several years of flat. But, Joe and I persevered and had a wonderful time breathing the mountain air as we took it pretty slow readjusting to the altitude and the terrain. Loved every moment of it.



Bayside Camp (our home for the week)
Brantingham Lake, NY



Joe on a real Adirondack Chair
reading on our Dock



Adirondack Sunrise mist at about 5:30am



Our Loon(y) Lake neighbor family.



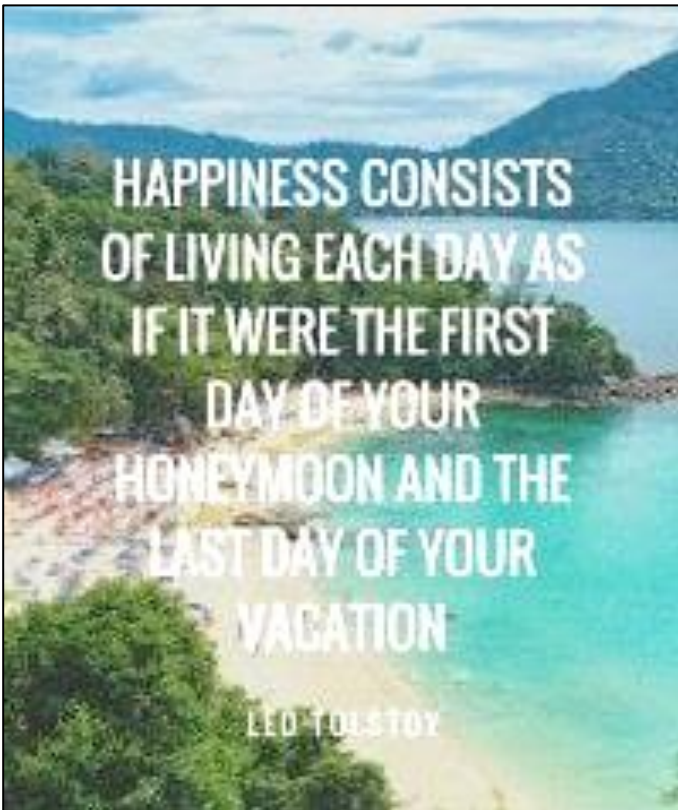
Awesome morning walk




Made it to Saratoga Springs, NY and the National Museum of Horse Racing Hall of Fame.

The goal was to see the 50th Anniversary of Secretariat winning the Triple Crown.

The sculpture is by Jocelyn Russell, Honary Chairman of the GFWC Arts & Culture CSP.






DONATE BLOOD

Together Saving Lives: The Rotonda West Rotary Club & GFWC Rotonda West Woman's Club
Saturday, August 5
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM

All donors will receive*:

- \$20 eGift Card
- OneBlood Swag Bag
- Chick-fil-A Coupon
- Wellness Checkup including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening.

Location: Rotonda Marina
Adjacent to the Hills Course
100 Rotonda Circle, Rotonda West, FL 33947

 Appointments are encouraged, please visit oneblood.org/donate-now and use **sponsor code #39275**.


ID REQUIRED
*One offer per donor, per donation. No cash value. Not-transferable. Gifts may vary. For more information please visit oneblood.org/details.

Donors Receive


\$20 eGift CARD


Walmart
amazon
...and more!

- PLUS -



- PLUS -





Share your power.

BEDTIME BAGS PROJECT

Lois LeVasseur, 1 941 698 9116

lolveasse52@gmail.com



Pictured: LtoR: Gloria Rogoski, Lois LeVasseur, Jessica Racine (Program Assistant, Guardian ad Litem Foundation - 20th Judicial Circuit) Gwen Grace, and Tracy Trotter (Coordinator of Punta Gorda GAL Office)

JULY!!!!

How can it be. Summer is flying by. However, the women of RWWC continue to be busy with various projects throughout the Club.

On May 31, 2023, members delivered 12 bags to the Guardian ad Litem office in Punta Gorda as a part of the ongoing Bedtime Bags Project.

Donations included: 12 pairs of pajamas and 12 pairs of socks. Toothbrushes and toothpaste, as well as travel-size soaps, shampoos & conditioners, have been received in abundance. Comfort toys have been received in large quantities. The Education & Libraries Committee has been generous with providing age-appropriate books for the children.

While visiting Jessica and Tracy at the office, we learned how much your donations mean to the children supported by this project. As a matter of fact, pajamas disappear as soon as they are delivered! A quick look around at the rooms/closet showed many toys; however, there were no books, socks, hygiene items – these are all things that are distributed to the children as soon as they appear and are in very short supply. On the one hand it is terrific to know that your items are put to good use; on the other hand, the need continues to be great.

The next quarterly delivery of 12 bags to the Punta Gorda GAL office will take place towards the end of August or beginning of September. Stay tuned for more information.

If you would like to participate in a delivery and take a look for yourself at the Punta Gorda facility, or would like information on becoming a GAL or otherwise helping out, please contact me.

As noted in the picture behind us in the photo – **Your superpower is that you care!** I couldn't say it any better!!



KNIT AND CHAT

Lois LeVasseur, Chairman, 1 941 698 9116

lolveasse52@gmail.com



Members of the Knit-n-Chat Group and the Chapter Chicks Book Club enjoyed a Harbor Tour on July 13th with Kingfisher Fleet. The captain provided interesting and amusing commentary during the trip; and numerous dolphins followed the boat on its 1 ½ hour excursion. Those attending experienced a time to relax together amid the scenery of beautiful Charlotte Harbor. (Though very warm, there was a breeze from the movement of the boat!)



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Doris Walker, Chaplain 941 828 0410
dew414@comcast.net

INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE/MAY 2023

**LIFE IS NOT MEASURED BY THE BREATHS WE TAKE,
BUT BY THE MOMENTS THAT TAKE OUR BREATH AWAY.**

BLESSING FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

**MAY THE SUN BRING YOU NEW ENERGY BY DAY,
MAY THE MOON SOFTLY RESTORE YOU BY NIGHT.
MAY THE RAIN WASH AWAY YOUR WORRIES,
MAY THE BREEZE BLOW NEW STRENGTH INTO YOUR BEING.
MAY YOU WALK GENTLY THROUGH THE WORLD AND,
KNOW IT'S BEAUTY ALL THE DAYS OF YOUR LIFE,
AND UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN IN SEPTEMBER,
MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND KEEP YOU SAFE.**

AMEN



CRAFT BAZAAR

Linda Bermea, Chairman, 941 460 8703 H, 541 591 3093 Cell
lbermea1@hotmail.com

Time to Start Planning.....

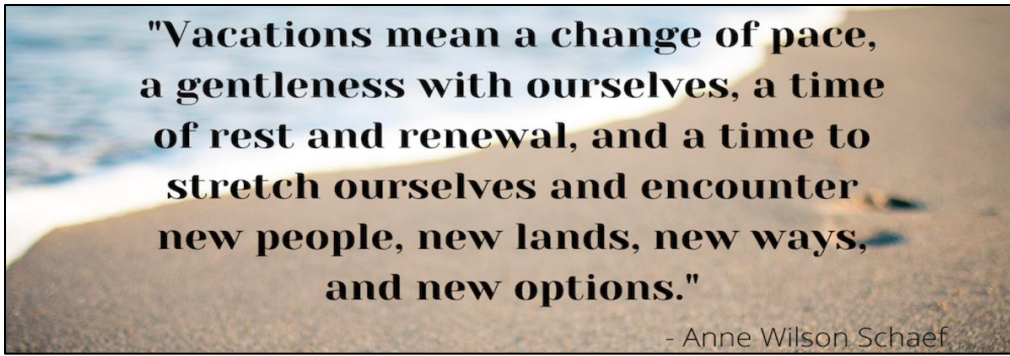
Our BAZAAR is coming up quicker than we think! **Saturday, OCTOBER 21st**. We have opportunities for everyone! If you like to bake, we have cookies by the pound that you can contribute to or our bake table. If you like working with the public, you can help greet the customers that enter the building by working at the front desk in the lobby. Or by working with the different teams {cookies by the pound, the bake table, the café, the crafters, the sew 'n sews, the gift baskets, knit 'n chat, and jewelry, or just working with me for anything that needs to be done during setup {which is the day before} or the day of the bazaar. If you were involved with basket donations for our March Bazaar, please consider helping with our October Bazaar baskets. I've received one donation so far.....wahoo!!

We'll be communicating lots as we get closer to the date, but think about where you'd like to fit in. It's lots of fun and definitely rewarding. I hope either the team chairs or myself hear from you soon so we can start organizing our teams and figuring out where, what and when.

Our last bazaar had over 50 volunteers!! I'm thinking we'll surpass that for October!!! Let's do this!

Thanks for your support. See you soon....

Linda Bermea



MY MEMORABLE SOUTH KOREAN VACATION

KAREN SMITH

Little did I know when I booked a flight to visit my son who lives in South Korea on 9/28/22, it would be unforgettable in so many ways. As I was preparing to leave from my house in England to go to the airport, I was watching hurricane Ian's progress on Wink News. The last communication I had was from the neighbors, who were sheltering in my house in Rotonda, saying water was coming through the ceiling!

There was more bad news to come. As my plane taxied towards the runway it hit a stationary plane, slicing it through its tail fin also causing damage to one of our plane's wings. This resulted in a 24 hour delay as they had to bring a replacement plane from Seoul.

I finally arrived at Incheon Airport 26 hours late and was very relieved to see my son waiting to welcome me. He had a taxi waiting to take us down to the south coast to Musan where he lived.

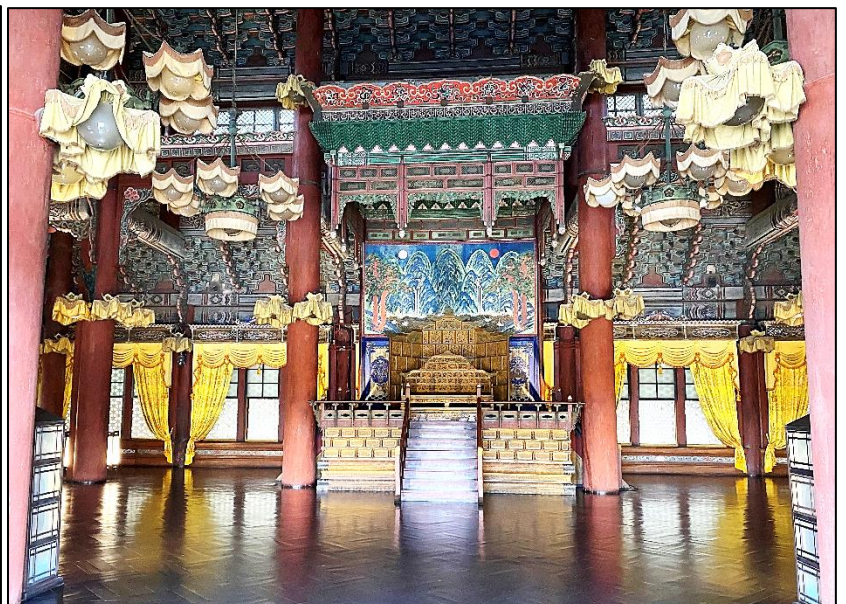
We spent a few days exploring down the area before heading to Seoul. I was amazed at the beauty and diversity of the country. Soaring mountains running down to lovely beaches, with a real mix of beautiful old buildings as well as very modern skyscrapers.

I arrived in Rotonda a week after the hurricane, desperate to find out how my Florida friends and home had fared. I did have some damage but was much luckier than so many others.

Matthew is starting a new job in September which means moving to the mountains north of Seoul. If I do chance another visit, I hope it will be less stressful!



One of the old streets in Seoul showing the old and new



Queen's Chamber in the Old Palace in Seoul



A glimpse of a "Secret" garden in Seoul



View from the 100th floor of the Sky Tower in Busan

VISIT WITH OUR SON IN QUERETARO, MEXICO

Donna Krabbe

This was our first opportunity to visit our son in his new home since he retired and moved to Queretaro. It was a long day of traveling but well worth it. Dennis lived in San Diego for 20 years before relocating, so visiting time has been limited. To spend a month together was great and it ended way too soon. Dennis and Nicolas's home is a lovely "Colonial" style house overlooking the city. Our accommodations were lovely and we enjoyed relaxing in the courtyard.



Welcome at airport



Welcoming dinner

We were able to make day trips to surrounding towns: San Miguel de Allende, Tequisquiapan (Tequis to the locals), Colon (Basilica of Our Lady of Sorrows), and Bernal; and two days in Mexico City (Our Lady of Guadalupe), and, Teotihuacan (Pyramid of the Sun).

We dined at very nice restaurants in each



Celebrating Dennis's Birthday



Watching sunset from roof top deck

town and Queretaro, and Nicolas enjoyed cooking for us – so many delicious breakfasts and dinners.

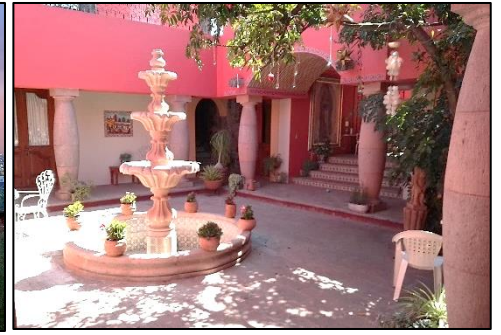
Visiting the Pyramid of the Sun was a must – I’m a huge pyramid fan. We had a personal guide who spoke English, and provided so many details about the Pyramid of the Sun (3rd largest in the world), the Pyramid of the Moon, and the other structures in the Teotihuacan complex which covers an area of 8 square miles.

Visiting Our Lady of Guadalupe Shrine was a very moving experience. Juan Diego’s cape is displayed. The Blessed Virgin appeared to him on December 12, 1531. Even though that was more than 450 years ago, the cape is in almost pristine condition.

We had visited with Nicolas’s family in San Diego at his nieces’ quinceaneras so, when his mother, brother, and sister came to visit for a couple days, it was nice to spend time with them again.



Sunset from rooftop deck



Dennis’s Courtyard



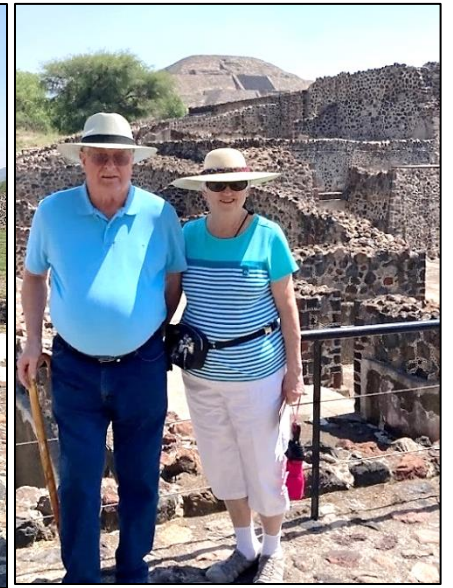
Tequis street performer plays “Oh Donna”



Refreshments in Bernal



Pyramid of the Sun



Pyramid of the Moon

I did have issues adjusting to the altitude (Queretaro 5,000 ft. & Mexico City 7,000 ft.) and it did curtail some activities but I was so happy to visit with Dennis that it really just didn’t matter. I hope we’ll be able to make another visit.



Our Lady of Guadalupe cape



Breakfast in Mexico City





NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Donna Krabbe, Editor, 941 223 1573 Cell (may text)
rwwcchatter2020@gmail.com

This edition is the second summer “Vacation” edition. Please note that I requested officers and chairmen to be brief, conserve space, and include only information regarding events happening prior to the September edition. Therefore, not all submitted articles and, those who did, may not have included all their event and projects. Also, I elected to not include some of my regular features like photos from prior meeting, etc.

Thank you to officers/chairmen who included vacation items into their articles. And a Special THANK YOU to Kathryn Gallagher and Karen Smith for sharing their vacations – and those fabulous photos!

Remember all members are encouraged to submit articles regarding information that would be of interest to members. Don't be bashful.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/gfwcrotondawestwomansgroup/?ref=share>

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GFWC ROTONDA WEST WOMAN'S CLUB

Website: www.gfwcrotondawest.org

Email: rwwcmembership@gmail.com

General Meetings:

are held on the third Thursday of the month,
September through May.

RWA Activity Building.

9:00 am Social Hour – 10:00 am General Meeting.

GFWC Rotonda West Woman’s Club

District 12

PO Box 672

Placida, FL 33946-0679

TO : _____

Donna Krabbe, Editor

rwwcchatter2020@gmail.com